Amendments to the claims:

1. (currently amended)A method of making a hardened steel part or component, said method comprising the steps of:

a) making a semi-finished article of air-hardened steel, wherein a minimum carbon content of the semi-finished article is selected so that a minimum hardness required for use as a roll lead-bearing part or component is provided;

b) cold-forming the semi-finished article into a finished-shape part or component with a predetermined finished shape; and

c) then hardening the finished-shape part or component by a heat treating process.

2. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the air-hardened steel has a composition comprising:

from about 0.31 % to about 0.85 % by weight carbon,
from about 0.95% to about 2.10 % by weight silicon,
from about 1.15% to about 1.85% by weight manganese,
from about 0.00% to about 1.65 % by weight chromium,
from about 0.05 % to about 0.20 % by weight nickel,
from about 0.10 % to about 0.70 % molybdenum, and iron.

3. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the composition of the air-hardened steel includes standard impurities.

4. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the air-hardened steel has a composition comprising:

about 0.67 % by weight carbon,

about 1.50 % by weight silicon,

about 1.50 % by weight manganese,

about 1.00 % by weight chromium,

about 0.10 % by weight nickel,

about 0.25 % by weight molybdenum, and iron.

5. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the composition of the air-hardened steel includes standard impurities.

6. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said cold-forming of the semi-finished article comprises hammering the semi-finished article.

7. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said cold-forming of the semi-finished article comprises hammering the semi-finished article.

8. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1, wherein said cold-forming of the semi-finished article comprises tapping and pressing the semi-finished article.

9. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 2, wherein said cold-forming of the semi-finished article comprises tapping and pressing the semi-finished article.

10. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 1, further comprising performing a surface improving treatment after said hardening.

11. (previously presented) The method as defined in claim 2, further comprising performing a surface improving treatment after said hardening.